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23 October 1952

Memorandum for: Deputy Director (Plans)

Subject: Questionnaires Prepared by the House
Committee to Investigate Tax-Exempt
Foundations (Cox Committee).

1. On 21 October, Mr. Houston and I met with Mr. Harold M. Keele, Chief Counsel of the Cox Committee, at the latter's suggestion, in order to explore any problems CIA might have arising out of the work of the Cox Committee. We explained to Mr. Keele that in order for us to determine whether we had any specific problem with the Committee, we should find it necessary to review the questionnaires which the Committee was sending out and the lists of recipients. Mr. Keele agreed that this was a most reasonable approach, that the Committee did not wish to do anything which would harm CIA operations in any way, and instructed his staff to furnish us with all the information which we desired.
2. There is attached herewith, as Tab A, the questionnaire which was sent to approximately 52 of the major foundations. A list of the recipients of this questionnaire was sent to you several days ago and should be inserted herein at Tab B.
3. A shorter questionnaire designated by the Committee as "Form A" is attached herewith as Tab C. The recipients of this questionnaire have been selected from the Treasury's list of tax-exempt foundations and have been limited to those whose titles begin with the letters A through C. Because of the shortness of time before the expiration of the Committee's statutory authority, it is not their present intention to go beyond the letter C on the Treasury Department's list. The foundations which have received this questionnaire are listed herewith in Tab D.
4. In addition to the foundations listed in Tab D, a further group of foundations have received questionnaire "Form A" (Tab C).

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These recipients are the so-called "Rich List" and are attached as Tab E. This is a list of foundations secured from a Mrs. Rich, who runs the American Foundations News Service in New York City.

5. A further Committee questionnaire, designated as "Form B", is attached herewith as Tab F. You will note that "Form B" is a short version of the original questionnaire (Tab A). The recipients of this list are so-called "operating agencies" which are beneficiaries of foundations' donations and operate largely as a result of such donations. A list of the recipients of this questionnaire is attached as Tab G.

6. It would be appreciated if you could inform this office as soon as convenient as to whether any foundations in which CIA is operationally interested are included among the recipients of these questionnaires. If so, we will take immediate steps with the Committee to protect the CIA interest.

7. In addition to the Committee's desire not to get into any areas which are sensitive to CIA, they also desire to make sure that the current lists of the recipients of these questionnaires do not include any groups in which the Department of State might have a classified interest. Committee Counsel asked our assistance in approaching the Department of State and laying the groundwork for their calling this matter to the attention of the appropriate officials in the Department. Feeling that the Department of State would immediately think of CIA interest in this matter, Mr. Houston has called Mr. Park Armstrong at the Department and briefed him on the problem. Mr. Armstrong has undertaken to brief the appropriate departmental officials (believed to be Mr. Fisher, the Legal Advisor and the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations), and he will then let us know whom the Committee should contact in the Department.

Walter L. Pforzheimer

Attachments

WLPforzheimer/jps:blc

cc - Mr.

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